

**MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF SEAT PLEASANT
REGULAR WORK SESSION
MONDAY, MARCH 12, 2018
6:00P.M.**

1. OPENING

1.1.1 Call to Order

Council President Yeargin called the meeting to order at 6:12p.m.

1.1.2 Roll Call

Present: Mayor Eugene Grant (Late), Councilmember Charl Jones, Councilmember Hope Love, Councilmember Lamar Maxwell (Late), Councilmember Shireka McCarthy, Councilmember Kelly Porter (Late), Councilmember Gloria Sistrunk, Councilmember Reveral Yeargin

Staff: Dashaun N. Lanham, City Clerk, Diamond Plater, Council Clerk, Jeannelle B. Wallace, City Administrator

1.1.3 Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance:

The invocation was given by Bishop Van Bynum, New Mt. Olivet Apostolic Church

1.1.4. Approval of Agenda

It was motioned by Councilmember Jones and seconded by Councilmember Love to approve the agenda.

2. PRESENTATIONS:

2.1. Diamond Plater, Council Clerk

- Ms. Plater, Council Clerk stated that she uploaded three reports from December 2017-February 2018, which was read to the City Council for each month.
- Ms. Plater stated that she met with Councilmember Sistrunk and Love regarding their expectation of the Council Clerk.
- The City Council requested that the Council Clerk disseminates the meeting notes to the City Council for each meeting that she has attended, as it pertains to the Council.
- The City Council requested for the Council Clerk to submit time sensitive information to the Council immediately oppose to each month. Council

Clerk Plater stated that she prepares the ward meetings agenda's, flyers for each monthly meeting.

- Councilmember Sistrunk stated that the meeting with Director Lipford on the CDCFCC is to provide food and assist with shelters for the City residences notes should be shared with the City Council.
- The City Council thanked Council Clerk Plater for her due diligence in her duties.

3. REPORTS:

3.1. Mayor's Report

- Mayor Grant stated that he appreciates the dynamic working relationship with the Office of the Mayor, City Administrator and Executive staff. The Council Clerk is doing an outstanding job and doing exactly what he envisioned the position to do. The Council Clerk assistance goes along way with assisting the City Council with having their Ward Meetings and other meetings.
- Mayor Grant stated that he missed the City Council on Saturday, March 10, 2018 for the Bond Bill Hearings. Delegate Jazz Lewis presented on the city's behalf, and the Mayor spoke after him. The challenge is that Governor Hogan did not appropriate any money in the budget for Infrastructure. They stated the request always far exceed the money that is appropriated. They spoke before the Senate for the Bond Bill for \$500,000 for each on the House and the Senate.
- Mayor Grant stated that we were joined by the City Administrator, Chief of Police, Director of Public Engagement, Director of Economic Development, Human Resources Director, City Treasurer, Financial Advisor and the Chief Fiancée' and daughter. We will be send a pin, mug and letter thanking Senator Meyer who is from the City and pleased to hear of the great things going on in the City.
- Mayor Grant is appreciative of Mrs. Wallace who ensures that the staff is working as required, as his role is more of a visionary.
- Mayor Grant submitted a letter to the Governor to request that the City be designated as an Opportunity Zone, the delegation had submitted a letter on the city's behalf. Mayor Grant stated that when he contacted the state regarding the letter for the opportunity zone, they stated that it was the best letter they received in the state.
- Mayor Grant stated that the Consultant under the Economic Development Department wrote the letter, and they stated that the letter provided details. Mayor Grant stated that he is confident that we will receive the designation.

- Mayor Grant stated the Capital Gains is high and the one per centers are doing their best to avoid paying taxes. The bi-partisan bill by Corey Booker and Tim Scott encourages incentives to the community by referral to their clients to invest in the community. The longer the money stay in the community, they will not have to pay taxes on the money.
- Mayor Grant stated that we are talking to Merrill Lynch about making investments in the city.
- Mayor Grant met with the owner of AOL, Steve Case, and the CGS Lead Mohamed Abdelhameid and they reviewed the prospectus of the CGS. We are on a path of digital transformation of the city.
- Mayor Grant stated that he cautions the City Council to pay close attention to the fine print in everything that we do. Mayor Grant stated that he wants to ensure that we do not get off on the wrong path.
- We are at the precipice of something good, the book of the Third Wave, and he feels that the City is part of the third wave. In 1985 Americans were on-line once a week for one hour, and they were questioned about the internet. He stated that this will be the same for the City with the subscriptions. The first wave was getting the internet up and running, Emmett McKennet is the man responsible for the internet, the second wave was to build on the internet with social media, and the third wave is the integration of data. Smart Cities becomes the conduit by which this will happen, the platform for education, health, crime, entrepreneurship will change. The large cities are claiming that they are Smart Cities, but they aren't, as they each have an IOT, which isn't dumped in a central location. Data can be monetized, and Ms. Lanham is working on legislation that will protect the data with a policy in place to protect our residents from third parties.
- Mayor Grant stated that this is a journey and a heavy lift that will not happen overnight. We just need to stay the course. We have other people paying attention to what we are doing, and the concern of gentrification.
- Mayor Grant requested the City Council to pay attention to the presentation of Mr. Ayu. Mayor Grant wanted to briefly share the thoughts with the City Council.
- Mayor Grant will be leaving Saturday, March 17, 2018 going to Las Vegas to IBM Think Conference, and the City was given a platform and he is the only elected official speaking at the conference. Seat Pleasant continues to methodically push the level, wait until the construction start on the building.
- Councilmember Jones inquired if the city has been documenting the process. Mayor Grant stated that we have not formally documented, but we

do have some records. We will have some growing pains in this journey, but it's not as risky as some of the others.

- Councilmember Sistrunk stated that when the current Council had come into office we had 167 vacant properties and now we are down to 100 to 115 in eighteen months. This goes towards the Mayor's vision and this going to be genocide, and a property around the corner from her home was purchased at \$100,000 and sold it for \$300,000 six months later.

3.2. City Administrator Report

- Mrs. Wallace stated that she is tasked with the mundane duties of the city. The staff attended the BFO training and prepared the Fiscal Year 2018-2019. We need to refer to the items in the budget as Cost Centers oppose to line items.
- The approved Emergency Preparedness Plan was reviewed and made a few editorial changes was submitted to the Assistant to the Chief, Mr. Jones should be providing the City Council with the updated version.
- Mrs. Wallace stated that she prepared a letter for the Mayor signature regarding the Municipal Charter Legislation Bill.
- The staff participated in asking questions of IBM Watson to ensure that the citizens can go and get the correct answers.
- The Public Works Department has been significant in getting two training slots for two staff members to get certified as Tree Cutters. When the City must pay for a tree to be trimmed, it can cost the city thousands of dollars.
- The Finance Department report submitted the trial balance, cash and income statements. We had received \$400,000 in revenue in the later part of February. The City has received Nine Million in revenue as of February.
- The Public Engagement Department had attended training for technology, and the IOC is now referred to as the CGS for Connected Government Services.
- The Police Department had a lot of arrest in the month of February and in one weekend they had made twenty arrests.
- The Grants Department had received \$63,000 for Streets repair.
- Councilmember Porter stated that he has been receiving a request from a reporter and wanted to ensure that everyone has not deferred any information. The Council President stated that the Council should simply do nothing. Mrs. Wallace stated that staff has been referring the calls to the City Attorney.

3.3. City Council Committee Reports

- Governmental Affairs and Technology Committee
- Councilmember Porter stated that the committee met twice in the month of February to review and compile the District and County Council rules into the Council Rules and Procedures Handbook. If the document is finalized we can always review and make changes in the future.
- Councilmember Porter thanked the previous members of the Governmental Affairs and Technology Committee for their work on the handbook.
- Councilmember Porter thanked City Clerk Lanham for putting the book together and Council Clerk Plater for attending the meeting with the committee.

4. LEGISLATION

4.1. Resolution R-18-13 Approval of Grant Application for Technical Assistances for Economic Development was introduced and read by the City Clerk on Monday, March 12, 2018. It was motioned by Councilmember Jones and seconded by Councilmember Maxwell to approve Resolution R-18-13. The motion carried and the Resolution was unanimously approved.

4.2. Resolution R-18-14 Approval of Public Works Mutual Aid was introduced by the City Council on Monday, March 12, 2018 and read by the City Clerk. It was motioned by Councilmember Porter and seconded by Councilmember Jones to approve Resolution R-18-14. The motion carried and the Resolution was unanimously approved.

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

5.1. None

6. NEW BUSINESS

6.1. Approval of Revised Statement of Financial Disclosure Form

- City Clerk Lanham stated that the Financial Disclosure Form was revised in accordance to the amendments of Chapter 18-Ethics approved by the City Council last month.
- The City Council unanimously approved the revision to the Financial Disclosure Form.

6.2. Request for Equipment Change

- Councilmember Maxwell stated that he would like to have the city issued cell phone changed into a wearable device.
- Councilmember McCarthy wanted to know if the device would be compatible with the apple devices that the city uses? Councilmember

Maxwell stated that he researched the compatibility with apple products, and it is found to be compatible.

- Councilmember Porter inquired if the Apple watch would be more compatible and the cost of the Apple watch. Councilmember Maxwell and City Clerk Lanham stated that the Apple Watch is more expensive than the requested wearable.
- Council President Yeargin recommended that the item be included in the FY2018-2019 Budget due to the amount not being included in the current budget.
- Councilmember Porter stated that he is having problems with storage on his iPad, and Councilmember McCarthy suggested that the device be connected to the cloud to save on the storage.
- Council President Yeargin requested the Council Clerk to research the request and provide the City Council with an update.

6.3. Council Rules and Procedures Handbook

- Councilmember Porter stated that the Council Rules and Procedures Handbook has been uploaded in Board Docs for the City Council to review and approve.
- Councilmember McCarthy stated that some of the fonts are different in the book, and she recommended that they be revised to the same font.
- Council President Yeargin requested for the City Clerk to submit the Draft Council Rules and Procedure Handbook to the City Council for review and add to the Regular Work Session Meeting Agenda for Monday, April 2, 2018.

6.4. Variance Request for 503 62nd Avenue

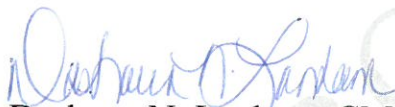
- Mrs. Wallace stated that she submitted a letter to the Zoning Board requesting a continuance, as the owner would like to build a fence that may encroach on two of the neighbor property.
- The Code Enforcement Officer will be measuring the property and submitting letters to each of the property owners regarding the encroachment.
- Mrs. Wallace stated that she is recommended to the City Council amendments to the Building Construction to include impervious driveways oppose to asphalt to prevent pollution to the Chesapeake Bay. The driveways need to have gravel or pavers.

7 ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 7.1. **National League of Cities-Congressional City Conference, Saturday, March 10-Wednesday, March 14, 2018, Marriott Wardman Park Hotel-2660 Woodley Rd., NW, Washington, DC**
- 7.2. **Ward II & Ward V Monthly Meeting, Monday, March 19, 2018, Seat Pleasant Activity Center, 5720 Addison Rd., Seat Pleasant, MD from 9:30am-11:30am**
- 7.3. **Regular Work Session, Monday, April 2, 2018, Seat Pleasant City Hall-Council Chambers at 6:00pm**
- 7.4. **FY2018-2019 Budget Hearing, Monday, April 9, 2018, Seat Pleasant City Hall-Council Chambers at 6:00pm**
- 7.5. **Public Session, Monday, April 9, 2018, Seat Pleasant City Hall-Council Chambers at 7:00pm**
- 7.6. **FY2018-2019 Budget Hearing, Saturday, April 14, 2018, Seat Pleasant City Hall-Council Chambers from 10:00am-11:30am**
- 7.7. **FY2018-2019 Budget Review, Saturday, April 14, 2018, Seat Pleasant City Hall-Council Chambers from 12:00pm-5:00pm**
- 7.8. **FY2018-2019 Budget Review, Monday, April 23, 2018, Seat Pleasant City Hall-Council Chambers at 6:00pm**

ADJOURN-The meeting was adjourned at 8:00p.m.

Submitted by,



Dashaun N. Lanham, CMC
City Clerk